

## **In the claims**

### **Please amend the claims as follows:**

1. (Currently amended) A rail clip for attaching a rail to a post, the rail clip comprising:

a bracket adapted to be mounted on the post, the bracket having a front wall;

a rail connector having a rear wall which lies in abutting contact with the front wall of the bracket;

a first connector mechanism disposed on the rail connector and bracket that interlocks the rail connector and bracket together; whereby the rear wall of the rail connector is slidingly movable along the front wall of the bracket;

a second connector mechanism fixedly connecting the rail connector to the bracket; and wherein said second connector mechanism is engaged when the rail connector is disposed at a desired position on the front wall of the bracket.

~~a connector mechanism for securing the rail connector and bracket together, the connector mechanism comprising:~~

~~—— a first mechanism that allows the positions of the rail connector and bracket to be arcuately adjusted relative to each other but does not allow axial or lateral withdrawal of the rail connector from the bracket; and~~

~~—— a second mechanism that locks the rail connector and bracket together when the rail connector and bracket have been arcuately adjusted and are in a desired orientation relative to each other and so that substantially no~~

~~additional relative movement can occur between the rail connector and the bracket; and~~

~~— a rail receiving receptacle formed on the rail connector, the rail receiving receptacle receiving an end of the rail therein; whereby adjustment of the rail connector relative to the bracket varies the angle of the rail receiving receptacle relative to the bracket.~~

2. (Currently amended) A rail clip as defined in claim 1, in which the front wall of the bracket ~~includes an~~ is arcuate ~~outer surface~~ and the rail connector slidably engages the ~~outer surface~~ front wall of the bracket and wherein the position of the rail connector is adjusted by sliding the rail connector along the ~~outer surface~~ front wall of the bracket.
3. (Original) A rail clip as defined in claim 2, wherein the first mechanism comprises:
  - a first groove formed in one of the rail connector and the bracket; and
  - a boss formed in the other of the rail connector and the bracket; whereby the boss and groove interlock with each other and allow sliding arcuate movement between the rail connector and bracket, while substantially preventing the axial or lateral separation of the rail connector from the bracket.
4. (Currently amended) A rail clip as defined in claim 3, in which the second mechanism comprises at least one fastener that extends from the rear wall of the

rail connector and into the front wall of the bracket and thereby fixably connects the bracket and rail connector together, ~~thereby~~ substantially preventing further relative movement between the bracket and the rail connector.

5. (Currently amended) A rail clip as defined in claim 1, in which the rear wall of the rail connector ~~includes a rear wall that~~ is complementary shaped to the outer surface front wall of the bracket; and wherein the rail connector further comprises a peripheral wall extending ~~and the rail receiving receptacle extends~~ outwardly away from the rear wall of the rail connector and defining an internal cavity, said cavity being adapted to receive an end of a rail therein.
6. (Currently amended) The rail clip as defined in claim 5, wherein the rear wall is concave in shape and projects partially into the interior cavity of the rail receiving receptacle connector.
7. (Currently amended) A rail clip as defined in claim 5, in which a portion of the rail receiving receptacle peripheral wall includes side walls having ~~has an upper wall, a lower wall and two side walls; and the side walls have an interior face, an exterior face and front and back edges, and the side walls extend a short distance~~ inwardly beyond the rear wall thereby forming a lip between the back edge of the side wall and the rear wall of the rail connector.
8. (Original) A rail clip as defined in claim 7, in which the back edges of the side

walls are concave in shape.

9. (Currently amended) A rail clip as defined in claim 8, in which the back edge of the side walls is adapted to be complementary shaped with the ~~outer surface~~ front wall of the bracket.
10. (Original) A rail clip as claimed in claim 9, in which the lip further includes a ridge, the ridge running along the back edge of the side wall.
11. (Currently amended) A rail clip as claimed in claim 10, in which the bracket defines a first groove and the ridge of the rail connector interlocks with the first groove so as to connect the rail connector and bracket together while allowing ~~allow~~ sliding engagement between the bracket and rail connector; the ridge and first groove comprising the first mechanism ~~to secure~~ for securing the bracket and rail connector together.
12. (Original) The rail clip as defined in claim 1, wherein the bracket has a rear wall and the rear wall is substantially flat and is adapted to abut a substantially flat wall on the post.
13. (New) The rail clip as defined in claim 1, wherein the said second connector mechanism extends through the rear wall of the rail connector and into the front wall of the bracket.

14. (New) The rail clip as defined in claim 13, wherein the second connector mechanism is a screw.